

HEALTH ELIGIBILITY CENTER
Atlanta, GA

CONTINUOUS ENROLLMENT
ENHANCEMENTS

RELEASE NOTES

IVMB*2*893

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Introduction

Continuous Enrollment rules are invoked when a veteran is being assigned a base Enrollment Priority Group (PG) that is numerically greater than or equal to the base priority of the Enrollment Group Threshold (EGT). An EGT type of Enrollment Decision was set at PG 8 effective January 17, 2003, so when a record is determined to be PG 8, continuous enrollment rules are invoked to determine the sub-priority group.

These rules have been built into the VistA software and are based on VA policy and regulation. While VHA staff remain responsible for entering data into VistA, the VistA system will apply the Continuous Enrollment rules to those records staff enter. The premise is that if a veteran's enrollment was based on valid eligibility factors and these factors have changed over time as a normal course and the veteran now qualifies for PG 8, the veteran will be placed in PG 8a or 8c and remain enrolled. However, if the veteran was enrolled based on one or more factors that were later found to be erroneous, the veteran would be placed in PG 8e or 8g and the veteran's enrollment discontinued.

Enhanced Continuous Enrollment Rules

To determine a veteran's current enrollment record for the purpose of continuous enrollment, ignore any records with an enrollment status in the following list and look to the most recent record that is not in one of these statuses:

- Pending Means Test Required
- Pending Purple Heart Unconfirmed
- Pending Eligibility Status Unverified
- Pending Other
- Pending No Eligibility Code
- Deceased
- Not Eligible; Ineligible Date
- Not Eligible; Refused to Pay Copay

Once the current enrollment record has been determined, the following rules will be executed in this order:

1. If the enrollment record is in a REJECTED enrollment status due to a manual override [at the HEC] (i.e., Enrollment Status Override =YES), it will remain in a REJECTED status unless the veteran is assigned to an enrollment priority group that is being accepted for enrollment,
OR
Until a new EGT is set that could qualify the veteran for enrollment
OR
The record in a REJECTED enrollment status is manually overridden [at the HEC] to ENROLLED.
2. If the enrollment record is in a REJECTED enrollment status, it will stay REJECTED as long as the veteran stays in an enrollment priority group that is not being accepted for new enrollment.
3. If the enrollment record is in a VERIFIED enrollment status due to a manual override [at the HEC] (i.e., Enrollment Status Override =YES), the veteran will remain ENROLLED until a new EGT is set that could disqualify the veteran from enrollment
OR
The record in an ENROLLED category is manually overridden [at the HEC] to a REJECTED enrollment status.
4. If the enrollment record is in a CANCEL/DECLINED enrollment status on or after the EGT Effective Date, it will be treated the same as a record in a REJECTED enrollment status. The veteran will not be continuously enrolled as long as s/he stays in an enrollment priority group that is not being accepted for new enrollments.

5. If the current enrollment record does not meet any of the conditions in Rules 1-4 above, the veteran's enrollment records will be evaluated from most current to earliest, with the following rules applied in this order:
- If the earliest Effective Date of Change is prior to the EGT Effective Date, the veteran will be continuously enrolled.
 - If there is any Enrollment Application Date prior to the EGT Effective Date, the veteran will be continuously enrolled.
6. If the enrollment record is in a NOT ELIGIBLE/REFUSED COPAY enrollment status on or after the EGT Effective Date

AND

The veteran has been sent a 601B or 601C Letter in the following statuses:

- 0-Send to AAC
- 1-Sent to AAC
- 2-Mailed by HEC
- 3-Reject at HEC
- 4-Reject by AAC
- 5-Error by AAC
- 6-Return by post office
- 7-Mailed by AAC
- 8-Sent to HEC printer
- 9-Address changed and mailed by AAC

AND

Agree to Pay Deductible is being changed from NO to YES

THEN

The decision is to REJECT enrollment.

7. If the veteran has ever had a verified enrollment record with an eligibility in the following list, s/he will be continuously enrolled:

- SC 10% or greater
AND
SC% is changed to SC 0% non compensable (total check amount \$0 or null)
- Aid & Attendance = YES
AND
A&A is now not YES
- Housebound = YES
AND
Housebound is now not YES
- VA Pension = YES

AND
VA Pension is now not YES

- AO indicator = YES
AND
Location = DMZ was entered prior to Enrollment System Redesign (ESR) V. 3.0 implementation
- The CV End Date expires on or after the Enrollment Application Date (or, in the absence of an Application Date, the earliest Effective Date of Change)
AND
The CV End Date has not been removed
- The veteran is enrolled due to a Means Test that qualifies for enrollment,
AND
A subsequent income year Means Test was added or edited that would place the veteran in a priority group that is not being enrolled.

8. If the enrollment record history does not support any of Rules 1-7 above,
AND
The base priority is numerically greater than the EGT threshold,
THEN
The decision is to REJECT enrollment.

The following examples illustrate the continuous enrollment rules.

Veteran Alpha is a NSC, MT Copay Required Combat Veteran. He enrolled on January 15, 2005, in PG 6 with a June 1, 2006 Combat Veteran End Date. On June 2, Veteran Alpha's Combat Veteran Eligibility expires. The continuous enrollment rules are invoked and he is changed to PG 8c.

Veteran Bravo is 10 percent SC and is enrolled in PG 3. VBA readjusts his award down to zero percent SC and veteran completes a MT and is MT Copay Required. The continuous enrollment rules are invoked and Veteran Bravo is changed to Priority Group 8a.

NSC Veteran Charlie applies for enrollment on June 10, 2003, and is placed in PG 5 based on MT Copay Exempt status. IVM confirms the MT Copay Exempt status is appropriate. The veteran completes a new MT for the following income year and is placed in a MT Copay Required status. The continuous enrollment rules are invoked and Veteran Charlie is changed to PG 8c and remains enrolled.

NSC Veteran Delta applies for enrollment on March 15, 2003, and is placed in PG 5, based on MT Copay Exempt status. Her subsequent means tests place her in a MT Copay Required status. When the test that qualified Veteran Delta for enrollment is

converted to a MT Copay Required Status by IVM, Veteran Delta is placed in PG 8e and her enrollment is discontinued.

Veteran Echo is enrolled as a 10 percent SC veteran and is placed in PG 3. HEC later confirms that the veteran has no service-connected disabilities and corrects the record. The veteran is placed in PG 8g and his enrollment is discontinued.

Veteran Foxtrot is a zero percent SC non-compensable, MT Copay Required veteran who was enrolled in PG 6 based on an assertion of Agent Orange Exposure while in service in Vietnam. He is subsequently found not to have served in Vietnam and the Agent Orange Exposure indicator is changed to No. As a result, Veteran Foxtrot's priority is reassessed and he is placed in PG 8e.

Currently, HEC staff may manually override any enrollment determination either to reject or continuously enroll a veteran, regardless of any business rule. This capability will not change with the continuous enrollment software enhancement.